

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-18 are pending in this application. All of the pending claims are rejected. Claims 1 and 6 are currently amended. Claims 19-30 are new. The claim amendments and new claims more clearly distinguish the recited invention from the cited references. Furthermore, the claims now more closely recite the specific language used in the Summary. The examiner previously maintained that the cited references taught selecting a pipeline for each thread such that processing of each packet is divided into multiple independent threads which are processed by multiple pipelines, and such that delay in processing of a first packet routing thread in a first pipeline does not affect processing of a second packet routing thread in a second pipeline. The Board of Appeals agreed with the examiner. Claims 1 and 6 have therefore been amended to recite that each thread includes instructions, and for each instruction a pipeline is selected such that no instruction in the selected pipeline depends on a preceding instruction because every instruction in the selected pipeline is associated with a different thread. New claims 19-30 recite specific instructions and associated operations. This is clearly distinct from the Office's interpretation of the claims and prior art. Reconsideration and further examination are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

July 11, 2012

Date

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Docket No. 120-100

Dd: 08/18/2012